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NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL Monterey, California





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1980

OFFSHORE TRANSPORT AND DIFFUSION IN THE LOS ANGELES BIGHT - I, NPS DATA SUMMARY

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and C.A. Leonard D.E. Spiel and C.W. Fairall

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Table of Contents

		Page No.
ı.	Introduction	10
ıı.	Ship Operation Scenario	12
III.	Shipboard Equipment	15
IV.	Tracer Release Data	16
v.	Wind Histories	17
VI.	Radiosonde Results	22
VII.	Acoustic Sounder Inversion Height	42
VIII.	Meteorological Data.	51

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List of Figures

		Page
Figures la, b.	Wind histories: true wind speed versus	20,21
	time in immediate area of tracer gas	
	releases. Vertical bars show wind speed.	
Figures 2a-s.	Temperature and relative humidity pro-	23-41
	files determined from radiosonde releases	
Figures 3a-d.	Acoustic sounder strip charts. The	43-46
	sounder was located on the RV/Acania.	

List of Tables

		Page
Table l.	Significant shipboard events.	14
Table 2.	Characteristics of exhausts used during tracer	16
	gas releases	
Table 3.	SF ₆ bottle weights before and after the four	18
	releases. The total times for each release	
	are also given.	
Table 4.	Exact locations and start and end times for	17
	each release. Times are local, Pacific Day-	
	light Time.	
Table 5.	Inversion height as determined from the acous-	47-50
	tic sounder. More than one height is listed	
	when multiple layering makes the situation	
	ambiguous.	
Table 6.	Meteorological data: V-wind speed, RH-re-	52 - 55
	lative humidity, T-air temperature, Ts-sea	
	surface temperature, Zi-inversion height, U*-	
	scaling wind speed, T^* -scaling temperature, Q_0 -	
	heat flux, Z/L-stability parameter (L-Monin	
	Ubukhov length), ω*-mixing rate, t-mixing time.	

I. Introduction

During September of 1980 the Environmental Physics
Group of the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) and Aerovironment, Inc. conducted a research program in the
Santa Barbara Channel area of the California coast. The
purpose of the operation was to perform offshore tracer
experiments in order to parameterize dispersion models
that are in current use and to build a data base for
future model development. The purpose of this report is
to present the pertinent meteorological and source data
for use by those who will be involved in the modeling
effort. Only the basic data, reduced to engineering
units, will be presented here; interpretation of these
data and application to the models will be the subject
of a future joint report by Aerovironment and NPS.

Although the data gathered in this experiment has much wider application, it was collected for the specific purpose of parameterizing models that will be used to assess the onshore impact of offshore oil exploration and production sites. Such impact currently has great importance since many coastal areas are near the legal air pollution limit and any significant additional loading could push them over the limit. Air pollution models in current use have not been adequately validated for the overwater regime. The results of this study should remedy the inadequacy of the models.

During the tracer experiments SF₆ gas was released from the ship RV/Acania and tracked by an aircraft, a small boat, and one mobile and fixed stations on shore. Meteorological data was gathered on the ship and on the shore. This report contains shipboard meteorological—data and gas source strength. Shore meteorological data and tracer results can be found in a report by Aerovi-ronment.

II. Ship Operation Scenario

Since the impact of offshore sources on the shore is the purpose of these investigations the experiments must be performed during periods of onshore winds. These winds must be of a fairly long duration since it takes a minimum of 6 hours to gather enough data during any one experiment. The preliminary decision to release the tracer gas on any given day must be made on the previous day due to the time needed to prepare all of the sampling sites. Thus, the following schedule was used.

All Days

- 0800-1200-2000: radio shipboard meteorological data to shore.
- 2. 1000: Shore obtains weather forecast from Point Mugu.
- 3. 1200: shore command center makes a go/no-go decision for a release on the following day.

Release Day

- 4. 0700: begin hourly wind reports to shore.
- 1000: decision on release made by ship-shore communication, final decision made on shore.
- 6. Final positioning of ship.
- 7. 1100: start tracer gas release.
- 1900: end tracer gas release and hourly wind reports.

The exact timing of the release varied somewhat and was two hours later for one of the tests because of wind conditions.

Because of difficulty in moving the shore stations, targeting of the plume was accomplished by moving the ship. This had to be done before the release was begun because moving the ship would introduce wander into the plume trajectory and contaminate the results. In order to hold the ship stationary to the degree needed it was anchored during a release.

Significant Events:

At times the ship was peforming tasks not directly associated with this study or was in port. As an aid in interpreting the data we list times of "significant shipboard events".

9/21	0905	Underway from Monterey
9/22	1030	Arrive at operation area
	1225	Underway to Anacappa Island
	1400-1700	Drift in Anacappa passage
	1700	Move to open channel
	1930	On station at operation area
9/25	1000	Underway for Port Hueneme
	1118	Dock
9/27	0500	Underway
	0640	Arrive at operation area
9/28	1930	Underway for Port Hueneme
	2030	Dock
9/29	0500	Underway
	0615	Arrive at operation area
	1930	Underway for Port Hueneme
	2030	Dock
9/30	1015	Underway
10/1	1010	Arrive at operation area
	1630	Depart for Monterey

Table 1 - Significant Shipboard Events

III. Shipboard Equipment

We give here a brief description of the meteorological measurements that were made on the ship. Details of the equipment and calibration procedures can be found in a previous report. Two meteorological stations at heights of 7 m and 20.5 m above mean sea level were used. At each level the following parameters were measured:

relative wind speed
relative wind direction (upper level only)
air temperature

dew point

wind speed fluctuation

The following parameters were also measured:

sea surface temperature

ship roll

ship location

inversion height

temperature and humidity profiles to 5,000 ft.

sky cloud cover

The temperature and humidity profiles were obtained by shipboard radiosonde launch and were taken every 12 hours. The temperature inversion height was determined by an acoustic sounder which gave a continuous strip chart record. Most data listed above was averaged for one half hour intervals. The exceptions were relative wind direction and ships roll. For both, 10 sec averages were obtained and recorded for the full period of a gas release.

IV. Tracer Release Data

Four separate experiments were performed. For each the gas was released through the exhaust of one of the ship's diesel motors. The main engine was used first but the cool gas injection caused a slight crack in the exhaust pipe so the exhaust of one of the motor generator sets was used for subsequent releases. Both exhausts are inclined at an angle of 45° above the horizontal. Both engines are 2 cycle diesels so exhaust flow rate is obtained by multiplying 2/3 times the displacement times the revolutions per minute. The pertinent data to characterize plume rise are:

Release Numbers	rpm	displacement (Cu in)	Stack Temp. (°F)	Flow Rate (cu_in/sec)	Diameter (in)
1	1250	860	210	9.17×10^{3}	8
2,3,4	1500	426	250	7.13×10^{3}	4.5

Table 2. Characteristics of exhausts used during tracer gas releases.

For a release, 4 tanks of SF_6 were connected to a single manifold. The manifold has a pressure gauge and two rotometers, one supplied by the manufacturer and one calibrated and supplied by Aerovironment. The second meter was used to set the flow rate the first to monitor it since it was less subject to fluctuations. The gas pressure to the rotometers was maintained at 25 lbs/in 2 .

Using the data found in Table 3 the flow rates for the four releases were

Release	1	49.01	lbs/hr
Release	2	50.74	lbs/hr
Release	3	48.54	lbs/hr
Release	4	47.91	lbs/hr

During the releases the ship was anchored approximately 5 Nmi SWW of Ventura. As stated above the releases started at approximately 1100 and ended at approximately 1900. The exact times and locations are given in Table 3.

Release	Date	<u>Latitude</u>	Longitude	Start Time	End Time
1	9/24	34°14.2'N	119°21.1'W	1135	1900
2	9/27	34°14.8'N	119°21,1'W	1107	1815
3	9/28	34°14.2°N	119°21.1'W	1243	1900
4	9/29	34°12.8'N	119°20.4'W	1143	1900

Table 4. Exact locations and start and end times for each release. Times are local, Pacific Daylight Time.

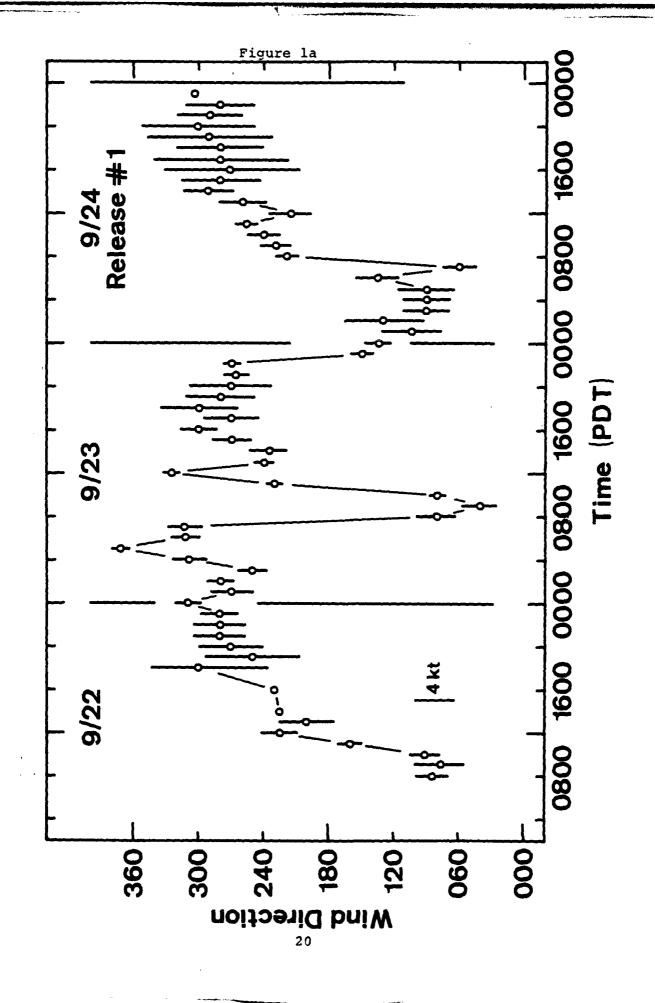
Bottle Number	Initial Weight (lbs)	Release 1	Release 2	Weight after Release 3	Release 4
1	255	164			
2	256	166			
3	252	159.5			
4	254	164	140.5		
5	257.5		145		
6	253		141		
7	253		139		
8	278				
9	260.5				
10	256.5			158.5	
11	256			152.5	
12	255			151.5	
13	257				144
14	254				140
15	251.5				139
16	257				247.5
Release	e time	7:25	7:08	6:17	7.17

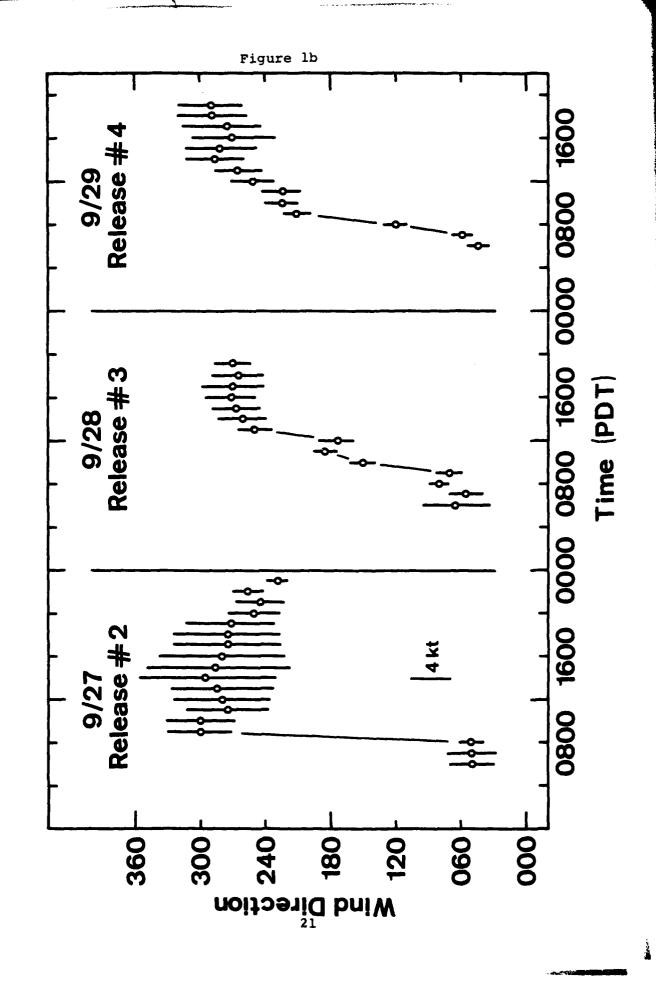
Table 3. SF_6 bottle weights before and after the four releases. The total times for each release are also given.

V. Wind Histories

Recent histories of wind direction and speed can be very useful for predicting winds on a short term basis as long as the synoptic situation does not change. For this operation winds were recorded and plotted at least every hour in the experimental area. These plots, shown in Figures 1, were very useful in the go/no-go decisions for release days.

The local situation during the time of the operation was one of light and variable winds. During the late night and early morning the wind was generally easternly, switching to onshore flow in the late morning or early afternoon. If the changeover was too late, or the winds too light a tracer gas experiment could not be performed. As can be seen from the figures, the time at which the wind direction began to change, and the rapidity of the wind speed magnitude change, is a good predictor of the ultimate direction and speed.





VI. Radiosonde Results

Radiosondes were released from the ship twice in each 24-hour period, generally at 0000 and 1200 PDT.

Releases were made and interpreted by a Navy radiosonde team. Temperature and humidity were determined at standard levels and significant points. Since we are interested in the detailed structure of the boundary layer such a treatment is too coarse. Thus, the original strip chart output and the met team determined calibration points were used to construct fine scale graphs, which are presented in Figures 2.

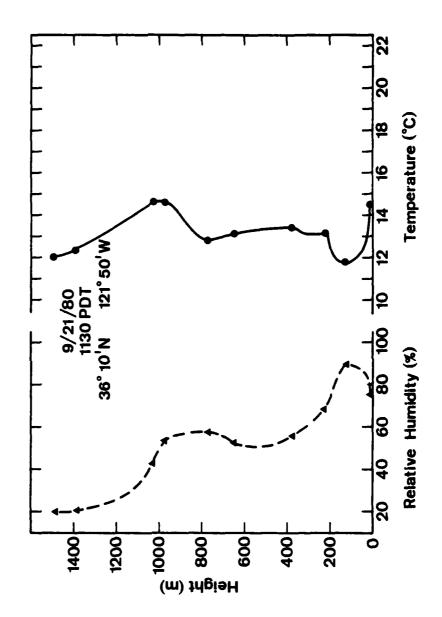
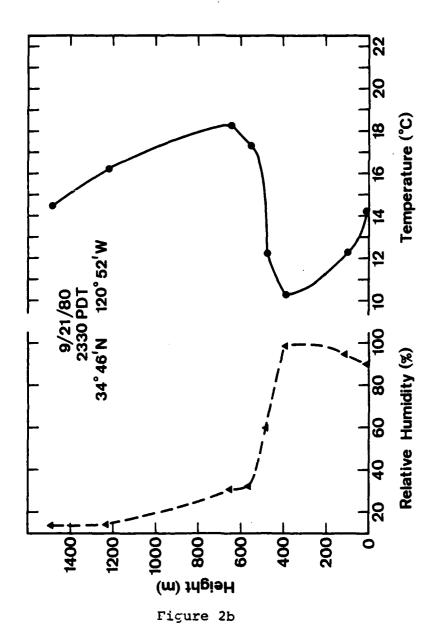


Figure 2a



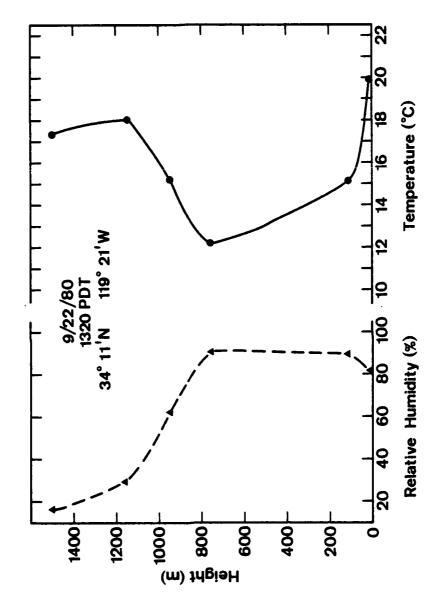


Figure 2c

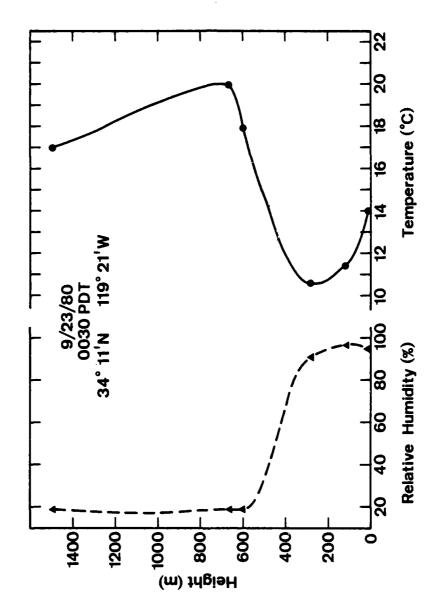
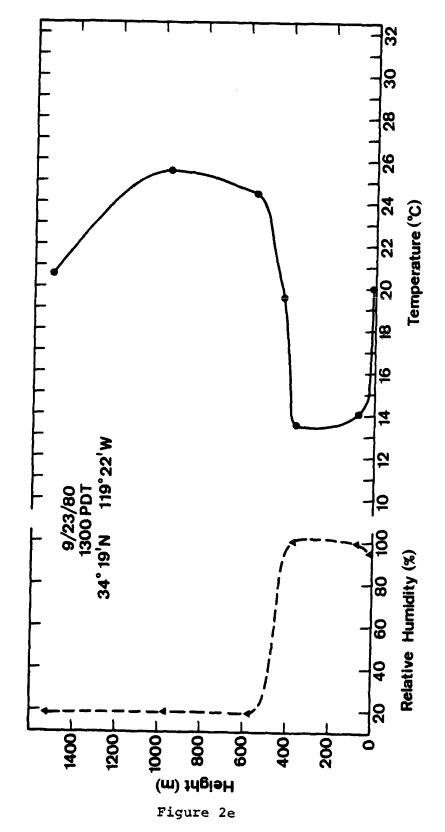


Figure 2d



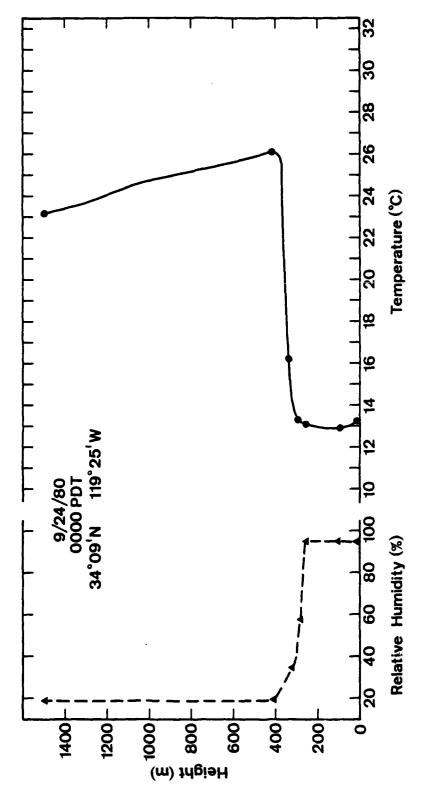
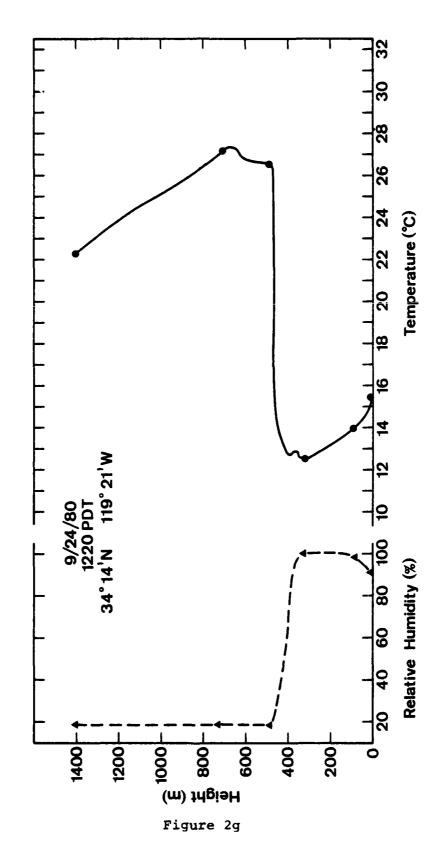


Figure 2f



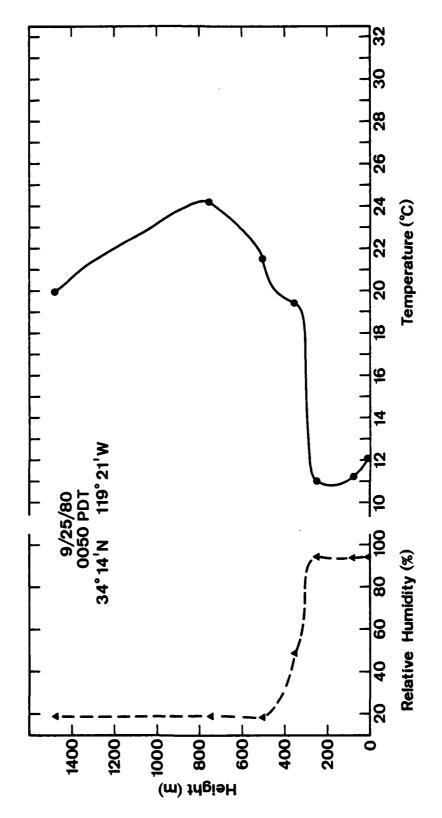
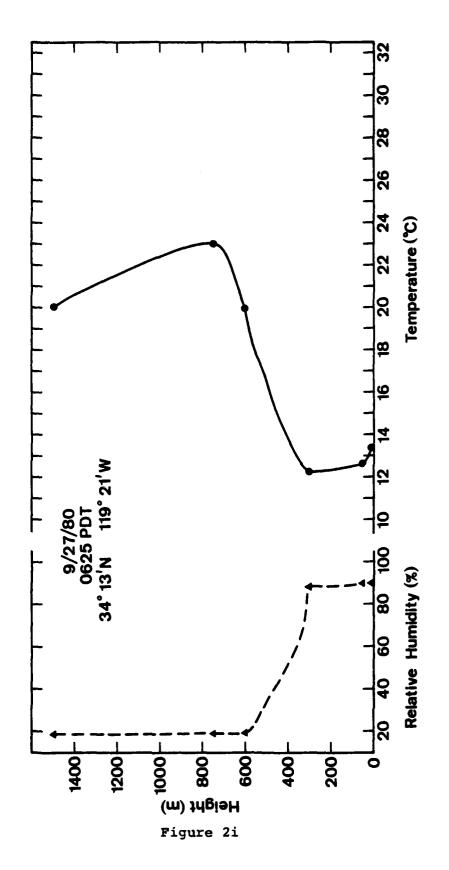


Figure 2h



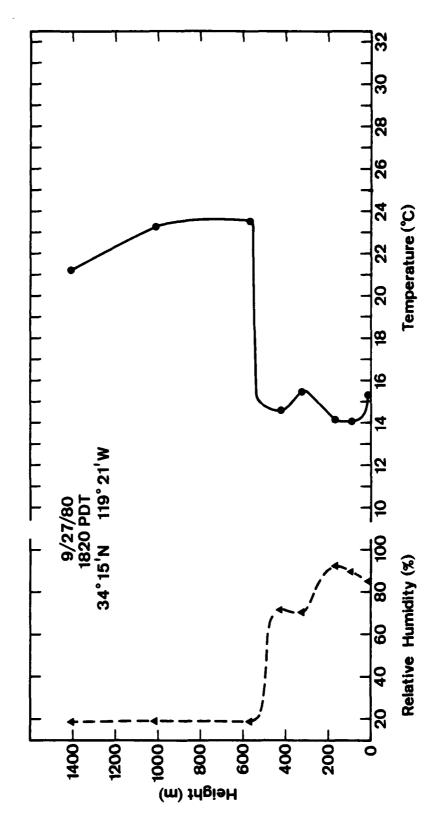


Figure 2j

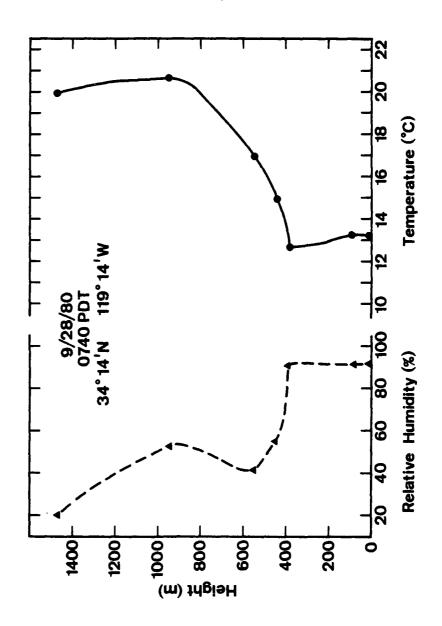


Figure 2k

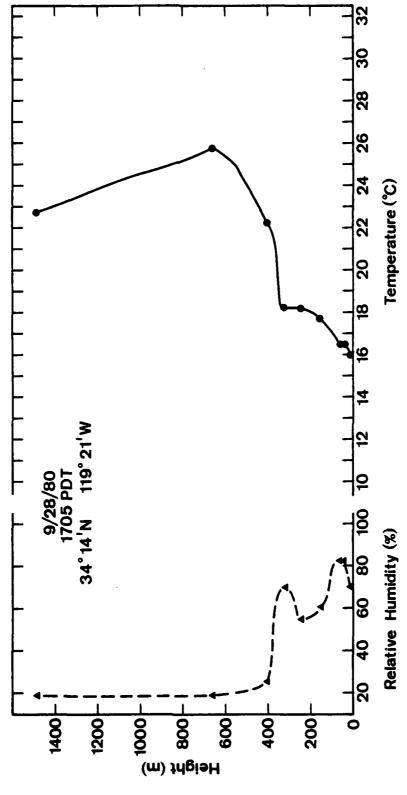
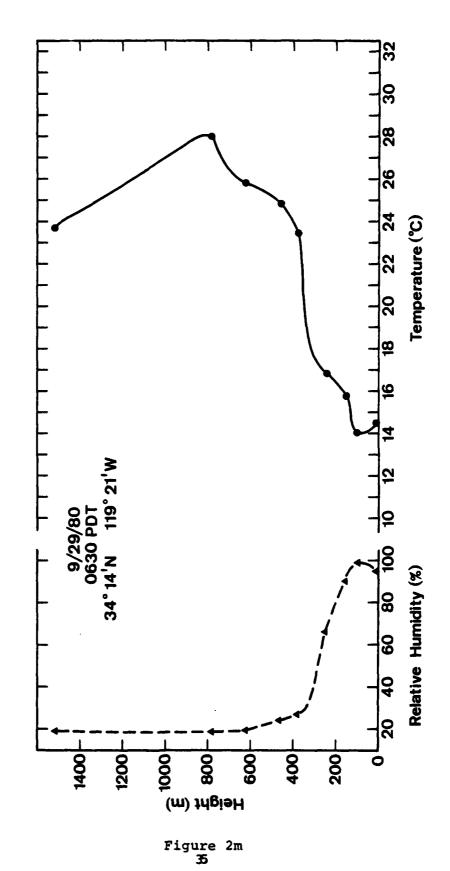
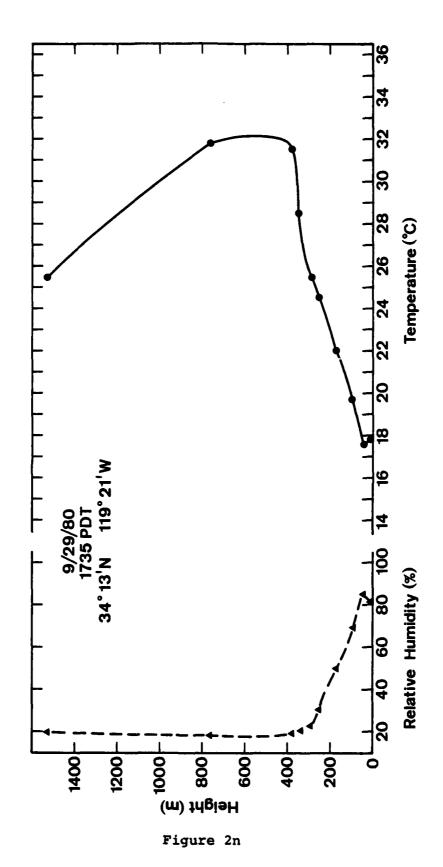


Figure 21





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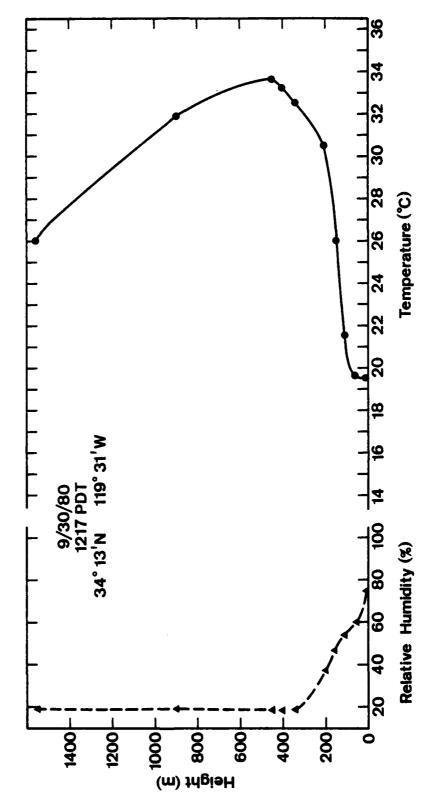


Figure 2o

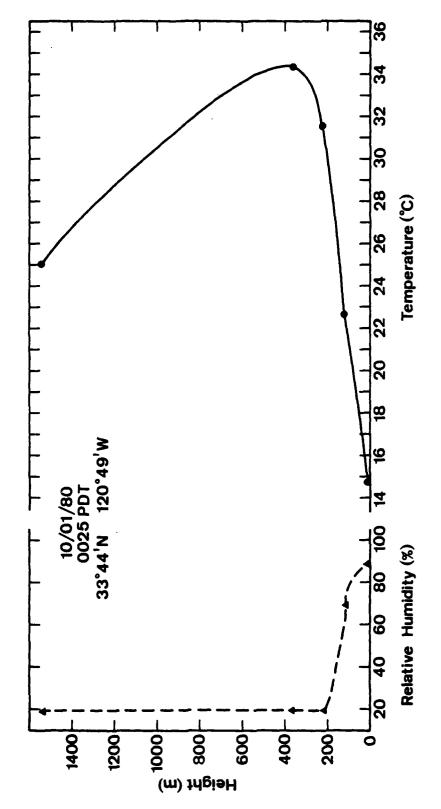
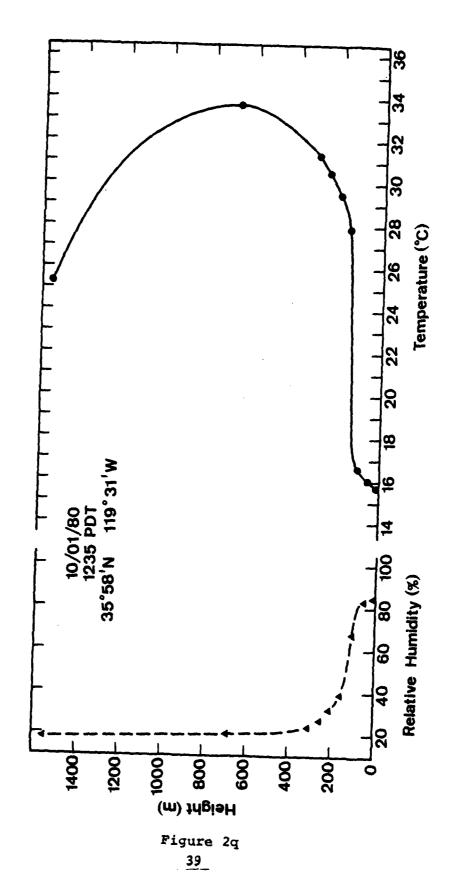


Figure 2p



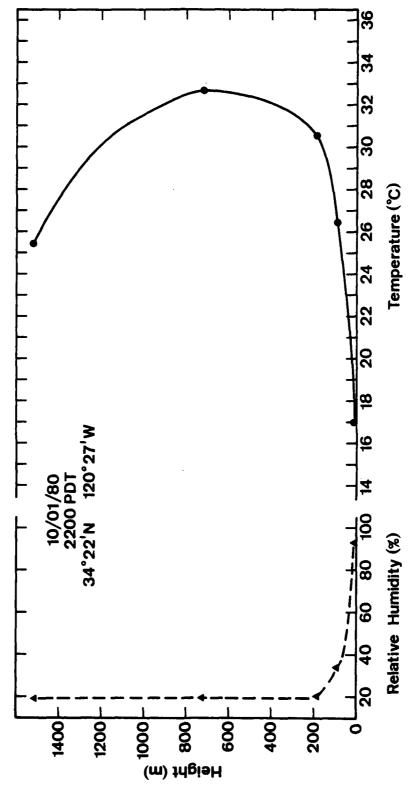


Figure 2r

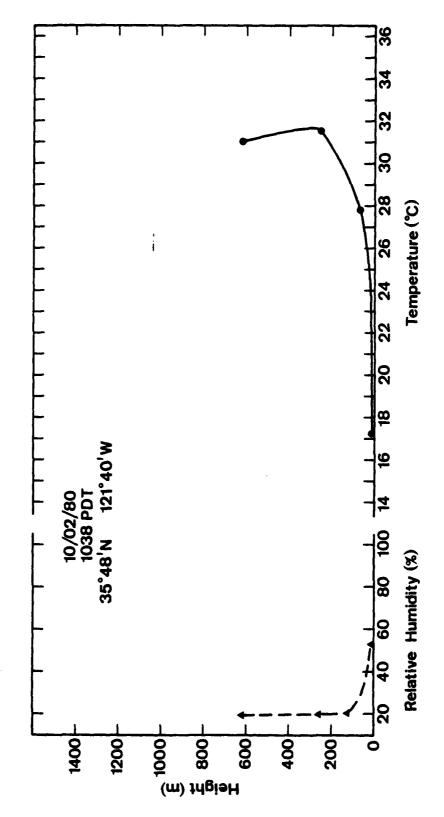


Figure 2s

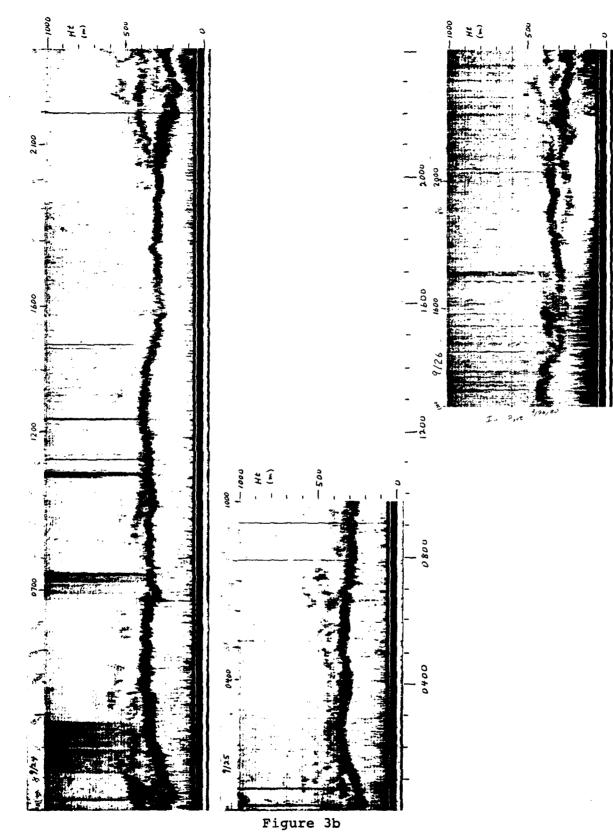
VII. Acoustic Sounder Inversion Height

The acoustic sounder was operating on a nearly continual basis throughout the cruise. In Table 5 we list the inversion height as determined from the sounder strip chart output. At times it is difficult to determine the correct height because of multiple layering so more than one height is given. Photographs of the strip charts are shown in Figures 3 as they can greatly aid in determining the boundary layer depth, especially when they are compared with the radiosonde results.

Normally, it is fairly easy to determine the boundary layer depth from acoustical sounder records, especially over the ocean. This was not true for this operation. The ship was near land and the period was during a major smog event. Multiple layering was common and even with radiosonde results it was not always possible to determine the height of the well-mixed layer.



Figure 3a



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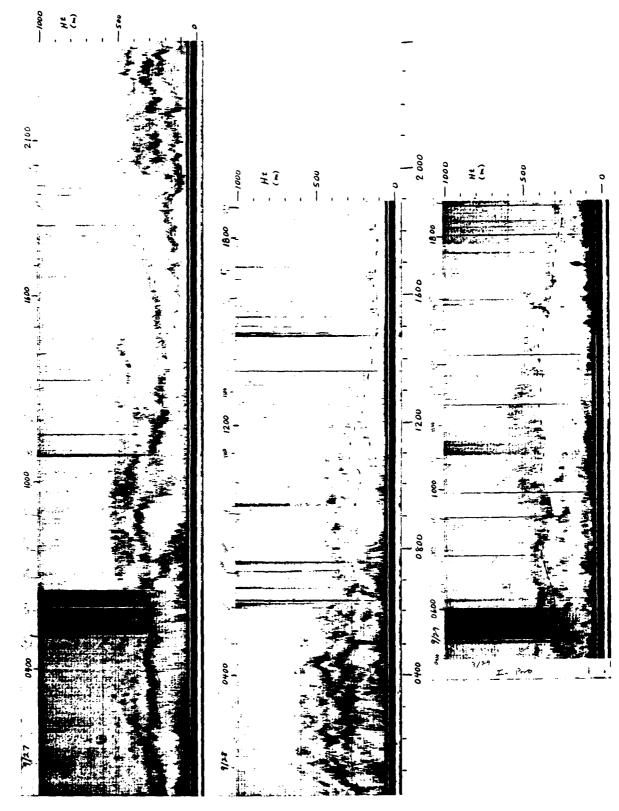


Figure 3c

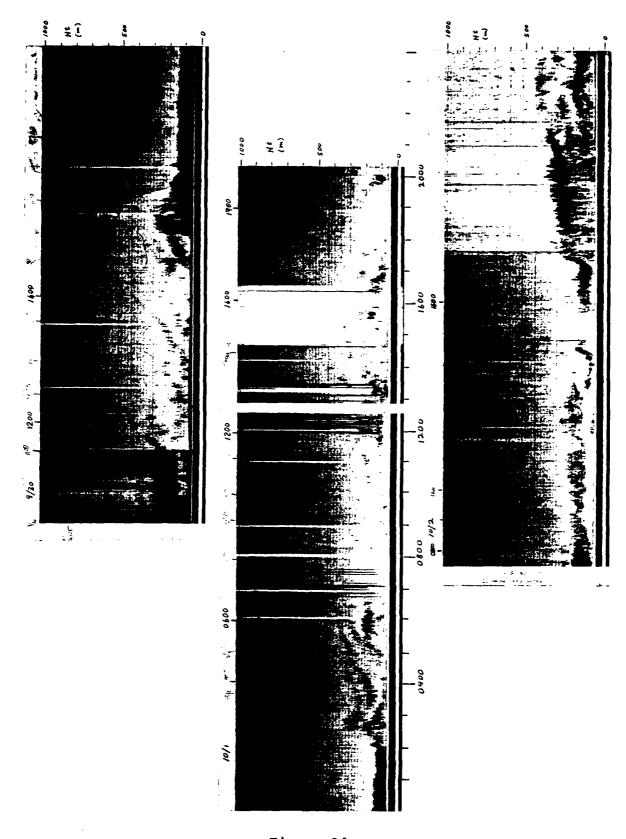


Figure 3d

Table 5. Inversion height as determined from the acoustic sounder. More than one height is listed when multiple layering makes the situation ambiguous.

DATE TIME Z(m) DATE TIME Z(m) 9/21 1700 260 1130 0 1200 90 1800 320 1800 320 1300 1300 100 1900 280 2030 370 1530 70 2100 360 1530 70 2130 400 1630 0 1730 0 1600 2230 380 1800 0 2100 2300 300 1830 80 260 2330 330 320 1900 120 2400 320	
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0130 460 0630 320	
0145 350 0700 300	
0200 220 0730 320	
0230 190 0800 310	
0300 160 0830 340	
0330 140 0900 330	
0400 80 0930 340	
0600 0 1000 320	
0630 280 1030 310	
0700 320 1100 330	
0730 410 1130 340	
0800 460 1200 350	
0830 500 1230 360	
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1600 210 1830 270	
1630 270 1900 290	

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	2000	290		/	2200	170	
	2030	310			2230	160	
	2100	300			2300	180	
	2130	240			2330	200	
	2200	210			2330		
	2230	200		9/25	0000	220	
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	2330	200			0130	290	
							
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	0130	250]	0330	300	
	0200	270			0400	290	
	0230	300			0430	300	
	0300	310			0500	320	
	0330	320			0530	310	
	0400	340			0600	300	
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	1630	270			1830	320	
	1700	280			1900	330	
	1730	270			1930	310	
	1800	280			2000	240	330
	1830	270			2030	250	
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	2030	240			2230	210	
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DATE	TIME	Z(m)		DATE	TIME	Z(m)	۱ ۱
9/27	0000	200		9/28	0200	280	
	0100	210		\ 	0230	250	
	0130	220			0300	260	
	0200	250			0330	270	
	0230	240		\	0400	260	
	0300	260			0430	270	
	0330	250		\ 	0500	250	
	0400	260		} 	0530		
	0430	270			0600		
	0500	250	i 	ļ 	0630	200	
	0530	270			0700		
	0600	270			0730		-
	0630	290			0800		
	0700	200			0830		
	0730	180	280		0900		
	0800	300	400		0930	250	
	0830	330	440		1000	230	
	0900	340	450	·	1030	$\frac{230}{240}$	
	0930	280	400		$\frac{1030}{1100}$	300	
	1000	160	380		$\frac{1100}{1130}$	290	
	1030	180	380		$\frac{1130}{1200}$	260	
	1100	240	300		$\frac{1200}{1230}$	$\frac{280}{210}$	
	1130	230					
		$\frac{230}{210}$			1300	200	
	1200				1330	170	
	1230	240			1400	150	
	1300	230			1430	160	
	1330	210			1500	120	
	1400	200			1530	110	
	1430	210			1600	120	
	1500	140	230		1630	140	
	1530	130	240		1700	130	
	1600	110	250		1730	120	
	1630	120	270		1800	110	
	1700	110	290		1830	130	
	1730	130	340]	1900		
	1800	140	360	1			
	1830	150)			
	1900	160]			
	1930	120]			
	2000	100]			_
	2030	110	220				
	2100	90	230	1			
	2130	220	250				
	2200	240	260			_	
	2230	230	270	9/29	0430	240	
	2300	250	290		0500	200	280
	2330	200	280		0530	240	
					0600	310	
9/28	0000	200			0630	320	
	0030	280			0700	350	
	0100				0730	380	
	0130			1	0800	390	
	0200	280			0830	360	
			لـــــا	' ————			·

$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	(m) 240
0930 360 1000 380 1030 80 400 2200 1100 380 1130 80 370 2300	
1000 380 1030 80 400 2200 1100 380 1130 80 370 2300	
1030 80 400 2200 1 1100 380 2230 1 1130 80 370 2300 1	
1100 380 2230 1 1130 80 370 2300 1	
1130 80 370 2300	110
	140
	150
	130
1230 410	
1300 100 400	
1330 80 390	
	120
	110
1500 380 0100	90
	110
	100
	130
	140
	150
	170
	160
	120
	140
9/30 No well defined 0600	120
	130
	140
	100
0800	90
10/2 0800 90	
0830 110	
0900 140	
0930 130	
1000 110	
1030 120	
1100 130	
1130 140	
1200 150	
1230 140	
1300 190	
1330 120	
1330 120	
1430 100	
1530	
1600 100	
1630 110	
1700 80	
1730	
1800	
1830 220	
	Į į
1900 230	

VIII. Meteorological Data

Table 6 presents the basic meteorological data and calculated parameters. Only data taken during the tracer gas release periods are included. Wind speed, relative humidity, and air temperature values are those measured at the upper level (20.5 m). All calculated parameters were determined using the bulk aerodynamic method.

The boundary layer mixing rate and mixing height depend on the boundary layer depth, Z_i . We have already mentioned the difficulty in determining the depth for these data. On the 28th and 29th we could not determine if the depth of the well-mixed region was 100 or 400 m, which makes the mixing rate and time calculations ambiguous. The results shown are self consistent.

Table 6. Meteorological Data

						sin #1-60 Release #	e #1					
Date/Time	Time	U (m/sec)	RH (8)	T (C)	Ts (C)	2 i (m)	(m/sec)	T* (C)	10+3*20 (m/seck)	z/L	w* (m/sec)	t (min)
9/2	13		73	14.7	16.6	330	0.073	0.075	107.0	-2.38E 00	0.4	14.0
09/24	1205	2.1	74	14.6	16.8	360	.07	0.082	115,1	.55E	0.4	14.3
9/2	23	•	73	4	16.9	350	0.068	0.075	107.5	8	0.4	14.9
9/2	30		73	15.1	•	350	.07	•		.91E	0.4	14.8
9/2	32		72	Š	•	340	• 06	•	05.	7E	0.4	14.9
9/2	35	•	89	5	•	330	6			• 6 7E	0.4	
9/2	42		70	15.2	•	300	.13		08.	-7.46E-01	0.5	
9/2	45	•	72	15.3	17.3	280	,13		02.	8	0.4	
9/2	52		7.1	15.2		260	.12		08.	S.	0.4	•
9/2	54		72	5	17.2	240	.15		05.	7	0.5	•
9/2	61		9/	5		250	.20				0.5	8.3
9/2	64	•	79	15.0	9	260	2			0,	0.5	•
9/2	7		9/	4	•	270	.20			.79E-0	0.5	•
9/2	74		78	9	8	290	.23			.17E-0	0.5	•
9/2	80		79	4	9	290	4			5E-0	0.5	•
9/2	83	•	9/	4	•	280	0.247			9	0.5	8.5
9/2	90	•	77	4	16.9	280				02E-0	0.5	•

BLM #1-80 Release #2

t (min)	9.3	8.2		•		•		•	•	•			•	•		•	2	•	ب			8.4	•
w* (m/sec)				•	•			•	•		•	•			•	•	•	•	٠	•		0.3	•
z/L	.39E 0	2.51E 0	1.71	5.61E-0	44E-	6.41E-	.71E	4.20E	.35	.74E	.04	1.80E-0	19E-0	.84E-0	.18E-0	7.06E-0	6.45E-0	7E-0	.37E-0	3E-0	00E-0	Ġ	3E-0
10+3*20 (m/seck)	87.	94.	&	15.	8	03.	96	•	01.	8	7.		3	9	6	8	1:	8	-	٠ ھ	•	49.6	9
(C)	.15	.16	.10	.08	.08	.07	.07	.08	.07	.07	• 06	.05	.05	.04	.03	.02	.01	.01	.02	.02	.03	0.029	•02
U* (m/sec)	• 09	• 09	• 09	.15	.13	.13	.17	.17	.19	.20	.22	.22	.27	.29	.33	.28	.27	.27	.25	.28	.24	0.200	. 19
Z i (m)	300	250	340	200	380	400	230	220	200	220	210	200	200	180	220	230	260	290	310	140	140	160	160
Ts (C)	•	•	•	17.0							•		•									16.9	•
T (C)	3.	2	4.	4.	4.	5.	S.	4	5.	S.	5.	S	5.	5	Š	•	9	6.	9	9	9	15.9	5
RII (8)	85	87	80	78	80	80	80	82	83	82	81	77	80	77	77	75	75	11	80	80	80	80	80
U (m/sec)	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	5.8	•
Time	7.1	74	85	94	0	04	13	20	23	30	33	35	42	45	52	55	9	64	7	74	81	1838	90
Date/Time	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	09/27	9/2

BLM #1-80 Release #3

					Release #3	۳ **					
Date/Time	e U (m/sec)	RH (8)	T (C)	Ts (C)	Zi (m)	U* (m/sec)	# £ ()	10+3*00	z/L	3	. بد
						72327		(III) SECN		(m/sec)	(min)
m	2.	81	15.8	17.1	210		,	1			
9/28 13	2.	~	, ני	7	2000	700.0	0.045	0.89	-1.77E 00	0.3	12.6
9/28]		, <u>e</u>	7	2 · / · C	007	9/0.0	0.046	70.0	-1.43E 00	0.3	11.6
9/28 14	,	, c	•	7.0	091	0.094	0.046	69.1	-9.35E-01	0,3	0
31 86/0	•	7 (18.1	160	0.084	0.077	104.0	-1 74F 00	•	
07 07/	• •	α γ	16.2	18.0	400	0.100	0.065	4 00) ·	7.0
9/28 15	ب	83	16.4	18.	120	שוניט		0.00	-1.08E 00	0.4	15.0
9/28 16	٣		16.6		120	0.110	0.000	84.3	-7.41E-01	0.3	6.5
7/28 16	, e	80	•	700	0 7 7	0.111	0.046	70.1	-6.72E-01	0.3	0.8
3/28 17	, m) c	9	0 0 0	140	0.106	0.029	50.8	-5.32E-01	0.2	9.6
3/28 18	,) a	•	0	200	0.102	0.029	51.1	-5.82E-01	0.3	19.5
1/28				7.0	110	0.114	0.030	53,3	-4 RSF-01	, ,	, ,
07 07/	7	78		17.6	400	0.088	נכטיט		10 100	7 • 0	٥.
// 28 19		83		17.5		1000	1000	22.9	-8.08E-01	0•3	20.0
)		•	> •	0.010	0.032	54.5	-1.15E 00	0.3	20 R

BLM #1-80 Release #4

9/29 1217			Ę	Ts	Z i	to C	* E-	10+3*00	z/r	* 3	ų
9/29 12	(m/sec)	æ	(0)	(5)	(m)	(m/sec)	(0)	(m/seck)		(m/sec)	(mim)
	2.4	80	13.8	16.1	100	0.079		117.0	-2.20E 00	0.3	5.8
9/29 12	2.2	78	14.6	16.1	400	0.072	0.052	76.9	-1.76E 00	0.4	18.0
9/29 13	2.7	9/	15.4	16.2	440	0.087	•	50,3	-7.80E-01	0.3	22.5
09/29 1347	3.3	9/	15.6	16.3	400	0.106	0.024	46.4	-4.85E-01	0.3	20.6
9/29 14	3.5	92	15.7	16.5	430	0.114		46.7	-4.26E-01	0.3	21.1
9/29 14	4.0	9/	15.9	16.6	440	0.129	0.018	40.5	-2.85E-01	0.3	22.3
3/29 15	4.7	92	۲.	16.3	410	0.154	0.000	19.5	-9.64E-02	0.1	91.9
9/29 15	5.5	9/	٦.	15.9	360	0.179	-0.011	9.9	-2.32E-02	0.3	20.8
3/29 16	4.8	9/	0.9	16.0	300	0.154	900.0-	11.9	-5.76E-02	0.2	23.3
9/29 16	4.6	9/	٦.	16.0	320	0.149	-0.008	10.0	-5.17E-02	0.2	22.7
9/29 17	4.9	9/	0	16.1	310	0.162	-0.002	17,3	-7.72E-02	0.1	37.5
9/29 17	5.4	9/	6.	16.1	320	0.180	0.002	21.8	-7.87E-02	0.2	31.4
1/29 18	5.1	9/	ω	16.0	280	0.169	0.002	20.9	-8.62E-02	0.1	32.5
9/29 18	4.5	9/	.7	15.9	260	0.146	0.003	22.0	-1.20E-01	0.2	28.1
3/29 19	4.3	9/	15.8	15.9	280	0.137	-0.001	18.0	-1.13E-01	0.1	50.2

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